

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A print head for use in a printing apparatus that prints images by forming dots on a print medium, comprising:

a plurality of dot formation element groups for forming dots of different inks, the plurality of dot formation element groups being arrayed in a prescribed order in the sub-scanning direction, the dot formation elements of each group being arranged at an identical pitch  $k$  in the sub-scanning direction, the pitch  $k$  being set at an integer multiple value that is at least two times a pitch of dots formed on the print medium in the sub-scanning direction, the print head is formed so that a spacing between end dot formation elements of adjacent groups is  $M$  times the pitch  $k$  where  $M$  is an integer of at least 2, and

wherein a limit recording ration is set based on a possibility of occurrence of banding.